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# MARCONI RETAIN LEAD

Marconi, brilliantly led by Rale Rasic, opened the gap between themselves and their pursuers at the top of the PSL following last weekend's crowded 10-match program.

But there are definite signs that it will not be all a one-horse race: South Melbourne, the very young Western Suburbs and the improving Hakoah are all very much in touch with the Marconi Marauders.

If anything, it was a round of penalties and own goals: no less than 5 goals were scored from the spot while 2 players had the misfortune to lay a suicidal Easter egg against their own side.

Pleasingly for the balance of the League, earlier stragglers like the two Adelaide teams have started to come good while Canberra has moved closer to a middle-class status.

The Melbourne teams, after a brilliant start, have continued their decline and two of them are near the bottom of the table, together with newcomers Newcastle, still to get used to the rarified atmosphere of the PSL.

After a euphoric beginning, crowd figures show a fall-back, though the weekend was perhaps the wrong time to measure all this: Easter, especially for the four Greek and three Italian-based clubs, must have kept a few thousand fans at the family table, preoccupied more with Moussaka and pasta than the mundane matters of soccer.



Canberra caused one of the shocks of the weekend with their 2-1 win over Olympic  
both pictures show scenes from the tussle.

## JOE TO SEND LETTER BOMBS

Joe Vlasits, coach of the NSW State team, will announce next week his squad for the forthcoming internationals against visitors — and it will contain some major surprises.

Most Sydney-based Socceros will be bypassed and the number of survivors may not be more than three.

Vlasits, perhaps the greatest developer of young talent in Australian coaching, is anxious to give youth a chance.

"I hope that our team will form the nucleus of the new national side which must be built for the next World Cup challenge."

"Whoever will be appointed by

the ASF will surely want to follow a similar policy."

However, for ever the diplomat, Vlasits is about to make a happy departure from the past when players were unceremoniously dropped.

"I will write to all former internationals who won't be in my squad before announcing the names and I will thank them for their services in the past."

"I am sure that they will un-

derstand the need to inject new blood in the State team and then into the national side."

Vlasits is known to be keen to include several players from State League clubs.

"I want the best young talent available, no matter where they play," he said.

"Of the older players I am only considering one or two because they are still streets better than the young ones."

## A TALE OF SIX CITIES

### NEWCASTLE

What an annoyingly miserable start Newcastle is having in the PSL with two home defeats and trailing on the table.

But indications are the team, having gone through its baptism of fire, is gradually improving.

Their narrow home loss to a classy West Adelaide offered a promise of better things to come.

Once the newly structured team finds its feet and develops some confidence, they will shock a few opponents and once again pack their stadium.

### CANBERRA

The city's five PSL teams gained 10 points out of a possible 16 — a fair effort, involving only two losses in eight matches.

Hakoah and Wests both picked up three apiece to move closer to the leaders; Marconi and Wests are still unbeaten.

The Saints and Olympic, however, are still brittle and capable of dropping points almost against anybody.

Marconi won their fourth match in a row — but will need to tighten their defence not to lose their intact record in the near future — possibly on Sunday.

### MELBOURNE

It was a poor Easter along the Yarra: four matches, two draws and two losses — both defeats by last year's glamour club, Fitzroy.

Perhaps the best effort was registered by South Melbourne, snatching a precious point from the Lions' den.

Footscray dropped a point at home to continue their slide, despite the arrival of Yugoslav reinforcements.

As for Fitzroy, two defeats in Melbourne in two days, both against Sydney sides, seem to indicate that all is not well and a major shake-up wouldn't surprise.

### SYDNEY

The boys from the capital did well over the weekend and, with some luck could have done even better.

Their win over Olympic was full of merit and their defeat next day by St. George could easily have been a draw.

Canberra proved that they have added polish and finesse to their splendid spirit and any team that takes them lightly is certain to get a shock.

With several teenagers performing like veterans, they will be one of the exciting teams to watch exciting teams to watch.

### ADELAIDE

The perfect Easter: two matches and four points, possibly spelling the start of a revival after a depressing season start.

West Adelaide scored their first win in Newcastle and this should boost their sagging morale.

Adelaide City also registered their first victory of the year, ever so narrowly and at home.

Once Perin and Muniz hit top form and can take some of the load off Lister and Marocchi, Adcity should be the same formidable force as it was in 1977.

### BRISBANE

Lions did very well, getting two draws in two days — the second in Sydney against high flyers Wests.

However, they are still due to win a match at home, where their record is surprisingly poor.

Brisbane City were unlucky not to collect a point from Marconi where their grandstand finish froze an earlier smile of contentment on the face of the local fans.

So far City have won all their points at home and lost both their away games by the odd goal — surely a team for punters following forms.

# ASF RESHAPED IN SEPTEMBER

A convention will be held in Melbourne next September to deal with the proposed reorganisation of the Australian Soccer Federation.

The general principle that the ASF cover national team and national league affairs, and that a new arm be formed to represent the States, amateurs, universities, women, churches, juniors, schools, coaches, referees, etc., has merit.

Obviously the role of the State

and the State league clubs will have to be further defined, but the reform in general terms is long overdue.

Even today big soccer bodies such as the Public Services and Combined Banks Associations are unaffiliated.

Surely the district-minded Sydney Amateur Federation should see that they are brought under their wing, as well as any other associations that exist in the area.

Perhaps also the State League clubs could be brought by executive action to realise that there are important country areas near them that they should visit every year.

Brian Emery, secretary of the National Junior Council, has issued a well-considered proposal on the subject at the Council's direction.

## BOYS TO USA

The Australian under-19 schools team to tour Canada and United States will be chosen following the Coca-Cola National Youth Championship in Brisbane in May.

The tour takes place in August on dates yet to be set.

Finances received a boost when Federal Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development Ray Groom presented retiring Schools president Bob Quimby with a cheque for \$13,200 towards expenses of \$37,500.

Matches will be played in Vancouver, Seattle, San Francisco, San Jose and Los Angeles.

The tour is expected to include the first USA v Australia clash at any level in soccer.

The officials to accompany the 15 players are tour leader Bill Turner (Newcastle), team manager Jack Dodd (Sydney) and coach Bob McLaren (Melbourne).



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# PSL CLUB NEWS

## SYDNEY

Brisbane Lions' slip was showing when they turned up in Sydney to play Western Suburbs in a white outfit on Easter Monday. Referee Barry Wilkinson had no hesitation in ruling that the strip was too close to Wests' colours.

The players went back to their dressing rooms, and reappeared 26 minutes later with Lions in the unnumbered red shirts of the local Carlingford Redbacks. Lions' coach Julius Vincze admitted that they had used one orange strip against South Melbourne on Sunday, and the second one was being used by their Brisbane First Division side. All in all, it was completely unprofessional, and PSL manager John Frank was left wondering how a club, which is the only one in the league in orange, could have slipped up. The misdemeanour could bring a \$400 fine.

Harry Williams' torn groin muscle is under specialist treatment. He had an injection just before Easter, after which he could not even do light training for four days. The best St. George can hope is to have him fit in three to four weeks' time.

## SOCER ON AIR

Sydney's Radio 2UE have upgraded their soccer cover. On Saturdays at 1 pm David Jack covers Rothmans League, and at 1.15 pm John Frank goes behind the scenes for the Philips League games.

On Sunday at 7.45 am Tony Dickinson previews all soccer along with the English and pool results.

On both afternoons progress and fulltime scores will

Terry Smith should be well into training this week, and coach Gerry Chaldi is expecting Hakoah to have his services again shortly, perhaps even against Brisbane City this weekend.

Sydney Olympic have drafted a lot of youth into their team over the past two seasons. The average age of the team is 23 years, with 29-year-olds Alan Ainslie and Stuart Markland the two oldsters.

## MELBOURNE

Only eight of the 22 first squad players with South Melbourne last season are still with the club, and six (seven if Duncan Cummings is counted) are in the first team.

Stuart Baxter is the player who is giving South Melbourne a lot of confidence at the back, and after four matches they remain undefeated although they have chalked up two draws.

David MacLaren's message to Sydney fans is that they have never seen Irish international midfielder Bertie Lutton playing as he is now. Lutton, of course, transferred from Hakoah at his bidding this year.

## BRISBANE

City fullback Ian Rathmell has been troubled by groin strain and will be very lucky indeed if he is ready for this week's home game against Eastern Suburbs Hakoah.

Alan Marley, the former New Zealand World Cup striker, found the going difficult to adapt to the pace of the Philips League after playing in the Queensland First Division. He put everything together last Sunday with two goals against leaders Marconi.

Roddy McKenzie deputised for injured Nigel Lownds in Brisbane Lions' 2-2 draw with unbeaten Wests at Dural last Monday.

## NEWCASTLE

Roy Drinkwater bruised his foot in training last week but was able to turn out against West Adelaide. Unfortunately, he turned in the only goal of the game to give Wests an away win. Newcastle shaped quite well, but the lack of force up front is proving an absolute disaster to the season's prospects.

## CANBERRA

No wonder Eastern Suburbs Hakoah enquired about defender Tony Henderson when they were not happy with the price tag on Sydney Olympic's Richie Bell. Tall Tony had a marvellous game against Sydney Olympic. Not only did he marshall the defence, but his passes were just as tidy under pressure as otherwise.

Danny Moulis' dislocated thumb was strapped up for the game at Erskineville Oval last week, and the youngster saw the game through like a veteran.

A very vocal cheer squad from Canberra sang themselves hoarse at Erskineville last Sunday, bringing a touch of life and colour to the game. They had plenty to sing about as Canberra held on well for their first two points of the season.

Terry Byrne, 19, was a youngster with Preston North End before joining Canberra City. The cool manner in which he sunk his runaway goal against Olympic last Sunday proved his value to his new club.

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# PHILIPS LEAGUE SCOREBOARD

Marconi

Brisbane City

3 (2)

2 (1)

**MARCONI:** Maher 3, Jones 3, Degney 4, Russell 3, Prskaljko 3, Byrne 4, Vieri 5, Rooney 4, Mariani 3 (Williams: 63m), Sharne 4, Jankovics 5.

**Goals:** 0-1 Marley (12m), 1-1 Jankovics (36m), 2-1 Rooney (44m), 3-1 Byrne (68m, pen), 3-2 Marley (80m). **Referee:** T. Davies. **Crowd:** 6737. **Cautions:** Conner, Echeverria.

If luck deserted Marconi several times last year when it was needed, it returned in an avalanche during this game, enabling them to hold on to a one goal victory against their sister club. In the last 10 minutes City could have wrapped the game up and taken both points back to Brisbane, but Marley missed two gift chances, then was denied a classic penalty when Maher ground him into the mud when certain to score. Marconi played some brilliant football in patches, but it was their brittle defence that almost cost them the game. In midfield Vieri was masterful, caressing, stroking the ball to do what he willed, while Jankovics was an excellent foil. These two have struck up a deadly partnership and worked most of the dangerous Marconi attacks. City relied mainly upon the skills of Willie Conner to create their moves, and did well, writhing past Marconi defenders on a number of superb, dribbling runs. Gaffney also impressed with his clever ball distribution and hard work, while Marley was deadly inside the box. Marconi lost their "no goals against" record with amazing ease through Marley's headed goal, but struck back with vengeance and whipped three past Wishart, though Byrne's penalty had an element of doubt, for Jankovics seemed to dive over Perry's leg rather than trip over it. However, few in the ground were ready for the amazing last ditch stand that City mustered. It started with Marley's second goal, and as the minutes were ticking away, the Marconi off-side trap fell to pieces, with Russell continually hesitating and playing City players "on". Marley as mentioned missed two great chances, both times hitting the ball over, but can feel rather hard done by when flattened by Maher yet gaining no penalty.

S. DETTRE

Syd. Olympic

Canberra City

1 (1)

2 (2)

**OLYMPIC:** Meier 4, Luckett 3, Cross 4, Markland 4, McIntosh 4, G. Allan 3, Laing 4, Jamieson 3, Wilson 3 (Herron: 53m), Senkalski 3 (Thamnidis: 67m), Ainslie 4.

**CANBERRA:** Tilsed 5, Moulis 3, Milovanovic 3, Henderson 5, Davies 4, Gruicic 3, Byrne 4 (Heywood: 71m), B. Stoddart 3, Brown 3, Cant 5, Stark 3.

**Goals:** 0-1 Gruicic pen (9m), 0-2 Byrne (17m), 2-1 Senkalski pen (19m). **Referee:** A. Rodway (Newcastle). **Crowd:** 4133. **Cautions:** Henderson, Byrne.

Thrills galore came in an encounter in which Canberra's organisation in defence and the superb goalkeeping of Ron Tilsed tipped the scales in their favour. Olympic would have been entitled to wonder how Tilsed held them at bay when they were ascendant in the second half. It was not only Tilsed, however, as Canberra skipper Tony Henderson held his defence intact and also kept up a stream of well-placed balls to his midfield and forwards. And Jimmy Cant bobbed up everywhere to tantalise the Olympians. Stuart Markland was perhaps unlucky to propel the ball forward with his arm in the penalty area, and Ivan Gruicic made no mistake with his shot. In the 17th minute Cant simply waltzed through the Olympic midfield to send Terry Byrne away for a splendid solo goal. Two up, Canberra were pulled back one goal when John Brown gave away a penalty and Joe Senkalski converted. The real skills were in the early period, but if a game is judged by its closeness then this was the one to watch. In the 49th minute Mike Cross came through and even when he was alone and skirting the keeper in textbook fashion Tilsed contrived to rob him of possession. As Olympic poured on the power shots from Derek Laing, Alan Ainslie, Alec Jamieson and Chris Thamnidis were either held by the goalkeeper or cleared the posts by the narrowest of margins. In between times Ivan Gruicic and Henderson went just as close at the other end to keep the fans well on their toes.

— K. GILMOUR

Adelaide City

St. George

1 (1)

0

**ADELAIDE CITY:** Romanowicz (Marshall: 39min, 4), B. Nyskohus 4, Yung 4, Matic 4, Lister 5, Kolecki 4, Dance 2 (Muniz: 74m), Rigby 3, Marocchi 3, J. Nyskohus 5, Northcote 4.

**ST. GEORGE:** Coe 4, Utješenovic 4, Terry 4, J. O'Shea 3, Harris 4, Grosse 3, Durisic (Hensman: 45m, 4), Jones 4, R. O'Shea 3, Morgan 3, O'Connor 3.

**Goals:** Grosses (39m o.g.). **Referee:** D. Stanley. **Crowd:** 5300.

Adelaide City broke through for their first win of the 1978 PSL season and lifted their stocks high because they triumphed over the classy St. George. Adelaide City underlined their shaky pre-match problems by naming former Australian internationals John Perin and Agenor Muniz as reserves. Muniz was sidelined because of doubts about his ability to last 90 minutes after his lengthy lay-off, while Perin lost his first up position because of his recent indifferent form. Adity deserved to be a goal up at the interval because of their newfound, aggressive approach. The back four were well controlled by Lister while Marocchi, Kolecki and Rigby were an adventurous midfield trio. John Nyskohus, Northcote and Dance put the St. George defence under immense pressure and, to their credit, they withheld the barrage with aplomb. Despite the chances created by City, Saints were unlucky not to have scored after 37 minutes when Romanowicz dropped a high cross from Utješenovic. Robert O'Shea cracked a shot at the vacant goal but Yung raced across to clear off the goal-line. Attack was the name of Saints' game as they began the second half seeking an early equaliser. Saints were almost level at the 57 minute mark as big Morgan cracked a superb drive goalwards but young Marshall made a magnificent save. City got back into the game, however, and was finally unfortunate not to have increased their lead. The morale-booster proved to be an inspirational performance from diminutive Johnny Nyskohus who constantly threatened the Saints defence with his jinking runs.

— A. CRISP

## TOP SCORERS

JANKOVICS (Marconi)	4	GRUICIC (Canberra)	3
EATON (Wests)	3	HUGHES (Lions)	3
FISHER (Wests)	3	MARLEY (Bris. City)	3

Footscray

Easts Hakoah

1 (0)

1 (1)

**FOOTSCRAY:** O'Hara 3, Hazebent 3, Kazi 3 (Vasic: 46m), Kiliaris 3, Kondaros 3, Ilioski 3, Palinkas 4, Piciaone 3, Nikolaidis 4, Ristovski 4, Lujic 3.

**Goals:** 0-1 Stevenson (32m, pen), 1-1 Ristovski (86m). **Referee:** K. Allen. **Crowd:** 4000. **Cautions:** Barnes, Kiliaris.

Footscray needed all their luck and determination to share the points with a vastly superior Hakoah. After Footscray's early attacks, Hakoah quickly gained the upper hand and with Stevenson and Mowbray setting the pace, dominated the match in every department. While Stevenson was tearing gaps in Footscray's defence, Smith worked splendidly in midfield, destroying the ineffective short-passing fiddling of Piciaone and Ristovski. O'Hara gratefully crossed himself when Silva missed a greater sitter after Watson's cross. Hakoah's goal was the result of constant pressure building up on the Footscray goal. Barnes collected a long ball from midfield, pounced on it quickly inside the area only to be brought down by Hazebent and Stevenson easily converted the penalty. Palinkas almost got the equaliser six minutes before the interval following a deflection from a Hakoah defender. Second half replacement Vasic missed a brilliant opportunity set up by Ristovski but with only Clarke to beat Vasic hesitated long enough for Mowbray to arrive on the scene and clear the danger. Campbell's header shaved the crossbar — and this could have clinched the points for Hakoah. Nikolaidis was brought down inside the box but the Footscray players appealed in vain for a penalty. It was left to tiny Ristovski to produce the equaliser. Nikolaidis let go a thunderbolt from the edge of the penalty box, the ball bounced off a defender and there was Ristovski bursting forward to beat Clarke from close range. The home side thus managed to salvage a point but it's safe to say that until they pep up their attack they will be struggling against more composed defences throughout the season.

— C. NIKOLOPOULOS

Newcastle

West Adelaide

0

1 (1)

**NEWCASTLE:** Dando 4, Willis 3, Curran 5, Summerscales 4, Drinkwater 3, Hardes 4 (Kay: 75m), Mason 3, Amey 2, Gaipin 3, Boden 4, Endacott 3.

**WEST ADELAIDE:** Crook 4, Reynolds 4, Bozanic 4, McCaghney 4, Kampas 5, Jones 4, Boyle 5, Norris 4, Honeyman 3, McGregor 4, Zervas 3.

**Goal:** 0-1 Drinkwater (45m, o.g.). **Referee:** R. Lorenc. **Crowd:** 7019.

The Easter bunny proved extremely generous to West Adelaide on their first visit to Newcastle as local defender Drinkwater presented them with the points with an unfortunate own goal. Drinkwater inexplicably lobbed the ball back to his goalkeeper Dando who, some five metres out of his goal, was caught by surprise, and the ball floated under the crossbar for the only goal of the match. Yet for most of the 90 minutes Newcastle proved to be the better team particularly in the first half. However, Westad goalie Crook very capably dealt with some of the long range shots aimed at his goal. To show up the dearth of talent in the Newcastle front line, former Socceroo star Col Curran staged the most dangerous raids from his defensive position. He kept coming forward from left back in menacing style and almost scored once with a mighty shot. In one of the most constructive moves of the entire match the ball was switched from player to player before Curran latched on to it just outside the penalty area and his shot flashed against the crossbar. How the goal-starved Newcastle supporters would have welcomed a goal, particularly from their local hero. Curran! Central defenders Jones and Kampas held together Westad's rearguard in splendid fashion. Only Boden represented some threat to them but Gaipin and Endacott lacked the punch to break through. In the 79th minute coach Alan Vest took off Lloyd Hardes, replacing him with Peter Kay, much to the displeasure of the crowd. Goalkeeper Dando brought off a magnificent save, diving at full stretch towards the end when fullback Reynolds broke through but the final minutes belonged to Newcastle straining desperately but in vain for the equaliser. Drinkwater, Endacott and Gaipin all went close but Westad survived to take home the two precious points.

— M. HAY

Brisbane Lions

Sth. Melbourne

1 (1)

1 (0)

**BRISBANE LIONS:** Lownds 4, Potter 4, Hermiston 5, Bennett 4, Amos 4, Neal 3, Spearitt 3, Niven 3, Lasio 2, Hughes 4, Morris 3.

**SOUTH MELBOURNE:** Hansen 2, Pye 2, Kalafatidis 4, Baxter 4, Hatzimanui 4, Lutton 4, Wright 3, Rogers 4, Cummings (McGuiness: 27m, 3), Ollerton 2, Kent 4.

**Goals:** 1-0 Neal (43m), 1-1, Wright (74m). **Referee:** D. Klose. **Crowd:** 3600.

A tense game at Perry Park where a heavy ground appeared to take its toll of some players. On the day, defenders were the stars and Hermiston reigned supreme over all, at times forcing Ollerton into the South Melbourne defence where, of course, he is most ineffective. The Lions' backline had an impenetrable look about it and the goal they conceded had a great question mark against it. Hermiston had jockeyed McGuiness to a standstill out on the right, McGuiness kicked the ball, it rebounded onto his own arm and back again past Hermiston. Everyone except McGuiness stopped as the linesman flagged for an offence; the referee shook his head, McGuiness crossed and Wright easily scored. The goal stood in reply to Lions' opener in the 43rd minute when Morris sneaked up on the wing and crossed low and hard to Hughes who backheeled the ball to the far post where Neale pounced on it to score. This was Lions' best move and while they promised much, they never really put it together. For South Melbourne the two central defenders, Kalafatidis and Baxter handled Hughes well, although he had very poor service, especially from Lasio, who had his worst match yet for Lions. The South Melbourne midfielders probably edged their Brisbane counterparts but apart from Kent who worked very hard their finishing was woeful. South Melbourne may be undefeated but this may be due to Lions' poor display and not to their own performance, which can only be described as average. Both teams have good players but also have their share of the mundane.

— J. BINNIE

Fitzroy

West. Suburbs

0

3 (2)

**FITZROY:** Blasby 2, McMillan 2, Tansey 3, Proven 2, O'Reilly 2, Bannon 4, Taylor 2 (Micesviki: 46m), Campbell 4, Bouzikas 3, Buljevic 4, Cole 3.

**WESTERN SUBURBS:** T. Eaton 4, Skellern 4, Turnbull 4, Noble 5 (Rowden: 50m), Wilson 5, Harding 5, Dodds 4, Stone 4, O'Donnell 4, C. Eaton 5, Fischer 4.

**Goals:** 0-1 Fisher (21m), 0-2 C. Eaton (32m), 0-3 C. Eaton (48m). **Referee:** T. Beazleigh. **Crowd:** 5000.

Fitzroy is helplessly slipping towards the bottom of the table. While everybody was prepared to write off the "Marconi massacre" as a bad slip, the young Western Suburbs also tore apart Toni Boggi's disintegrating side. Fitzroy were punished three times for lapses in concentration as their shaky defence presented Wests with three marvelous gift opportunities to secure the two points. With Wilson organising an iron curtain in front of his own goal, at the other end Eaton and Fisher kept causing havoc for the Fitzroy defence. Blasby gave the first goal away when he tried to intercept Turnbull's lob; he dropped the ball into Fisher's deadly path. Although Buljevic missed chances repeatedly, Fitzroy stayed in contention. Then came the second goal. Picking up a loose clearance from Proven, Stone got Clive Eaton through. While the defenders were busy appealing for offside Eaton marched on to beat Blasby. But Fitzroy could have made things more respectable had Cole been able to convert Buljevic's curling cross just before halftime. Clive Eaton struck again only three minutes into the second half. Another short clearance by Proven landed in front of Fisher whose shot was partially saved by Blasby. Stone shot again but Bannon managed to clear on the line but only to Eaton, lurking on the left and tapping the ball home. In the end an anxious Fitzroy tried hard to get at least one goal but some wild shooting frustrated their attempts. The closest they came was through Cole and Campbell, both hitting the crossbar.

— C. NIKOLOPOULOS



## PHILIPS LEAGUE RESULTS

	Hakoah	Marconi	Fitzroy	Adel. City	West. Sub.	St. George	West Adel.	Footscray	Br. Lions	Br. City	South Melb.	Olympic	Canberra	Newcastle
<b>Hakoah</b>	P 9/7	9/4	2-1	16/4	23/7	20/8	6/8	25/6	1-3	2/7	30/4	28/5	14/5	11/6
<b>Marconi</b>	11	4-0	2/4	16/4	14/5	30/4	18/6	11/6	3-2	23	22	20	8	28/5
<b>Fitzroy</b>	18/6	4/6	1	21/5	0-3	23/7	9/4	27/8	14/5	1-0	2-7	30/4	16/7	6/8
<b>Adel. City</b>	16/7	2/7	20/8	1	30/4	1-0	28/5	0-1	6/8	18/6	14/5	9/4	4/6	23/4
<b>West. Sub.</b>	23/4	16/7	25/6	30/7	1	28/5	14/5	2/4	2-2	9/4	6/8	1	5	20/8
<b>St. George</b>	21/5	13/8	23/4	25/6	27/8	1-4	3	16/4	2/4	23/7	21/5	0-1	11/6	25/6
<b>West Adel.</b>	7/5	30/7	9/7	27/8	13/8	1-4	3	16/4	2/4	23/7	21/5	0-1	11/6	25/6
<b>Footscray</b>	1-1	0-2	28											



# PHILIPS LEAGUE '78

**St. George      Canberra City**

**2 (1)**

**1 (1)**

**ST. GEORGE:** Coe 4, Utjesonovic 3, Terry 3, Durisic 2, Harris 3, Grosse 3, Hensman 4, Jones 3 (Gnawi: 60m), R. O'Shea 2, Morgan 2 (Mendez: 76m), O'Connor 4.

**Goals:** 0-1 Heywood (22m), 1-1 O'Connor (43m), 2-1 Hensman (61m). **Referee:** P. Rampley. **Crowd:** 2533.

**Caution:** Grosse.

This was by no means a great win for St. George, "but it was a vitally important one. Dropping even one point against Canberra would have meant an enormous gap between themselves and the leaders which quite possibly they may not have been able to close. As it was correctly pointed out afterwards by a City player, St. George were more desperately fighting for the points, and that may have had a great influence in the second half when there were plenty of tired legs. St. George played without any recognisable style; a sort of "off the cuff" game which only succeeded because of the two fine wing men, Phil O'Connor and Peter Hensman. These two were a constant menace to City every time they got the ball, the only trouble being that they rarely got ample service from a weak midfield. Canberra on the other hand had style, purpose and an efficient, well drilled attack. Byrne is a potential threat every time he gets the ball, and is extremely difficult to dispossess, while Grbicic and Stoddart are skilful schemers. City could so well have scored a couple of goals in the first period, but after the equaliser they lost a lot of spirit. One player who didn't drop was young Ian Heywood, a tough nuggety dynamo who was snapping at Lions players all afternoon. Once St. George went ahead through Hensman's fine volley City looked doomed, as replacement Gnawi added the touch of confidence to his team that had been lacking in his absence. A lifesaving victory for St. George, but a match which could so easily have been snatched from them but for Martin Coe who palmed away Henderson's goal-bound header in the 82nd minute.

— S. DETTRE

**West. Suburbs      Brisbane Lions**

**2 (1)**

**2 (2)**

**WESTS:** T. Eaton 4, Skellern 3, Turnbull 3, Rowden 4, Wilson 4, Harding 3, Dodd 3, O'Donnell 3, Stone 3, Eaton 3, Fisher 4 (Samuels: 62m).

**Goals:** 0-1 Morris (6m), 1-1 Fisher (18m), 1-2 Neale (20m), 2-2 Samuels (78m). **Referee:** B. Wilkinson. **Crowd:** 1022. **Caution:** Morris.

Patience was the name of the game as Wests worked back into their own defence and crossfield throughout the first half. It was certainly a case of the Lion rampant at this stage, but later the Magpies were able to come from behind to end the scoring at 2-2 and preserve their unbeaten record. The damp and heavy grass had an effect on play, which was also partly dictated by the fact that the contestants had played League matches in Brisbane and Melbourne just 24 hours previously. Geoff Morris, lively as a cricket and the best man afield throughout, dived headlong for a glancing header in the sixth minute to score from John Neale's left wing cross. Fisher scored the equaliser in the 18th after Peter Wilson had hit the posts from the halfway line. Neale was on the spot two minutes later to score from George Potter's pass through the centre to give Lions a 2-1 halftime lead. Wests picked up after the interval, but so often the ball broke in Lions' favour deep in their territory, Ian Lawrie's entry for Alan Hughes failed to revitalise Lions, but in spite of some elementary mistakes Mark Samuels stepped up Wests' attacks. The equaliser came 12 minutes from the end. Dave Harding's cross found Clive Eaton inside Lions penalty area. He headed down to tee us for Samuels' swiftly executed left foot drive. Ian Rowden was the fourth teenager to put on a Wests shirt on the day, and he settled in extremely well for the injured Bobby Noble.

— K. GILMOUR

**Easts Hakoah      Fitzroy**

**2 (0)**

**1 (0)**

**HAKOAH:** Clarke 5, Mullen 5, Thomson 4, O'Connor 4, Murray 4, Stevenson 4, Watson 4, Barnes 5, Campbell 3, R. Smith 4, Silva 5.

**Goals:** 0-1 Mullen (55m), 0-2 Stevenson (61m, pen) 1-2 Tront (75m). **Referee:** McDermott. **Crowd:** 3000. **Cautions:** Tansey, Ernie Campbell.

Despite several changes in the team, Fitzroy suffered their second successive defeat in two days, having failed to put their game together up front, squandering numerous chances. In the first half's attacking raids they strove hard to open the scoreline but Clarke repeatedly saved Hakoah, when Cole, Tront and Campbell broke through the defence. Tony Boggi faced strong criticism from dropping Branko Buljevic as the forward line badly missed his leadership. Hakoah came into the game strongly in the second half with Barnes ruing the midfield while Silva repeatedly turned McMillan inside out, beginning the demoralisation of the defence. A number of defensive mistakes by Fitzroy helped Hakoah set in motion their scoring pattern. Mullen, the brilliant young fullback initiated the first goal. Evading Tansey on the flank, he moved close into the area to beat Blasby with a fierce shot. Spearheading the attack Barnes soon had his own chance. Stevenson put him through after a short interpass and as he was bursting forth, Proven brought him down. Stevenson converted his second in two days. Selemidis made little impact although he had a hand in Tront's goal, reducing the deficit. The youngster spotted Taylor moving through, left the ball to him who slotted it to Tront whose low drive beat Clarke. But the question remains: is it the same Fitzroy that finished third last year which has been staggering through the last three games to three defeats?

— C. NIKOLOPOULOS



# Will upsets continue?

— By Andrew Dettre —

All three unbeaten PSL teams will be at home this weekend and so, on paper at least, their intact record seems to be safe.

But in this topsy-turvy championship, none of them should feel too secure.

Take Marconi, for example, whose adventurous defence almost gave away a point last Sunday — and which will be fully stretched by an Adelaide City bouncing back into form.

To a large extent, Marconi rely on the brilliance of the Vieri-Rooney-Jankovic trio and Sharne's sizzling speed; if a team can counter all that, it might well be the polished, intelligent Adcity.

On Saturday, at the National Stadium, Canberra City will try to pull closer to the leaders when they meet Newcastle, gradually acquiring a taste for battle.

The talented Canberra also includes a pack of youngsters playing exuberant go-go soccer: the Hoggs, Moulises, Heywoods, Byrnes and Davies are keen to make their mark by grabbing the chance Warren has given them.

At Erskineville, Olympic will strive for their first home point, testing the nerves of their jumpy supporters once again swept close to despair by a team that promises but seldom delivers.

Not that their opponents, St. George, are in any great shape:

their game is very much off the cuff, without an overall style or apparent strategy with success always in the hands of a few inspired individuals.

Western Suburbs' youngsters under hard taskmaster Mike Lanning are maturing in fire and showing no scars.

However, they shouldn't be lulled into a state of false security by the recent poor form of their rivals, Footscray, always capable of pulling something out of their bag of tricks.

West Adelaide, notoriously uncomfortable at home, will want to avoid the embarrassment of further fiasco in front of their fans when they meet Lions.

But they should be prepared for the worst: Lions this year have done extremely well in away matches, collecting three out of four points in Sydney and will surely plot yet another excursion upset.

South Melbourne are no doubt rubbing their hands in glee at the thought of catching old rivals Fitzroy at a low ebb, and, on form, should walk away with the points.

But Fitzroy, after three successive defeats, are in no mood to take too much torture in this all-Greek drama and, in the

character of all local derbies, brace yourself for a possible surprise.

Brisbane City's impeccable home record will be duly tested by a Hakoah who have never lost an away match in the PSL last year or this one.

Will City surrender their 100

per cent home record — will Hakoah soil their clean cloth? The answer will come in Perry Park.

Just for the fun, our tips: Canberra, Marconi, Wests, South Melbourne to win; Olympic, West Adelaide and Brisbane City to drop a point at home.

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## OFFICIAL PROGRAM OF PHILIPS SOCCER LEAGUE



### THIS WEEK

Saturday, April 1

Canberra v Newcastle

Bruce, 3 p.m.

Sunday, April 2

Marconi v Adelaide City

Marconi, 3 p.m.

Olympic v St. George

Erskineville, 3 p.m.

West. Sub. v Footscray

Dural, 3 p.m.

West. Adel. v Br. Lions

Hindmarsh, 2.30 p.m.

Sth. Melb. v Fitzroy

Middle Park, 3 p.m.

Bris. City v Easts Hakoah

Perry Park, 3 p.m.

### NEXT WEEK

Saturday, April 8

Fitzroy v West Adel.

Middle Park, 3 p.m.

Bris. Lions v Canberra

Perry Park, 8.15 p.m.

Sunday, April 9

St. George v Newcastle

Barton Park, 3 p.m.

Easts Hak. v Marconi

Wentworth, 3 p.m.

West. Sub. v Bris. City

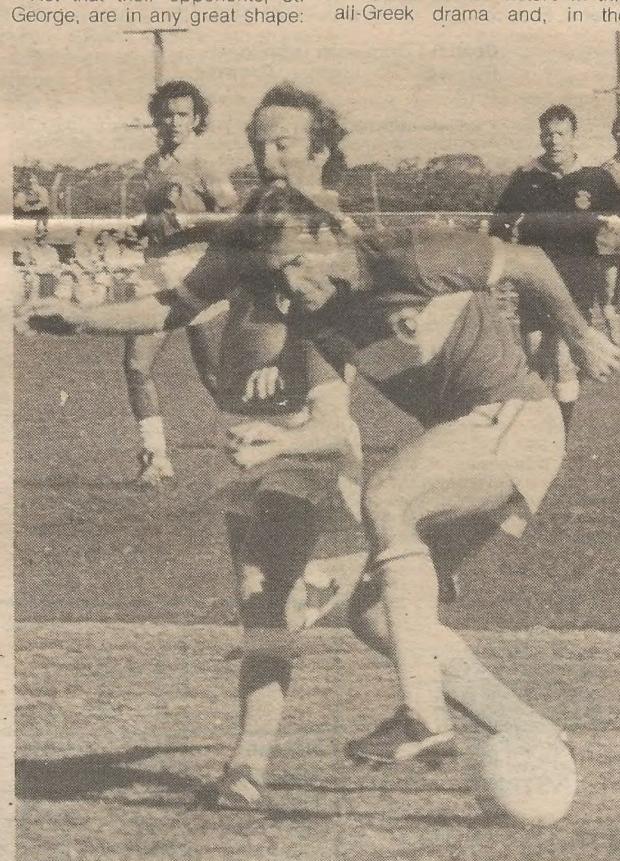
Dural, 3 p.m.

Adel. City v Olympic

Hindmarsh, 2.30 p.m.

Footscray v Sth. Melb.

Schinkler, 3 p.m.



Brisbane City defender Steve Perry (left) keeping a close eye on his chief tormentor, Mark Jankovic last Sunday at Marconi Oval.

(Photo by Steve Gonda.)

## CANBERRA SALES

Soccer World is on sale at these places in the Canberra area:

- **Canberra City Newsagency, 83 Petrie St., City.**

- **David Jones Newsagency, Woden Plaza.**

- **Dickson Newsagency, Badham St., Dickson, ACT.**

- **Canberra City Soccer Club, City Walk, Civic.**

- **Holden's Newsagency, 107 Monaro Street, Queanbeyan.**

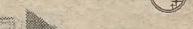
- **Johnstones Newsagency, Northbourne Avenue, City.**

- **Marco Polo Club, Queanbeyan.**

PHILIPS



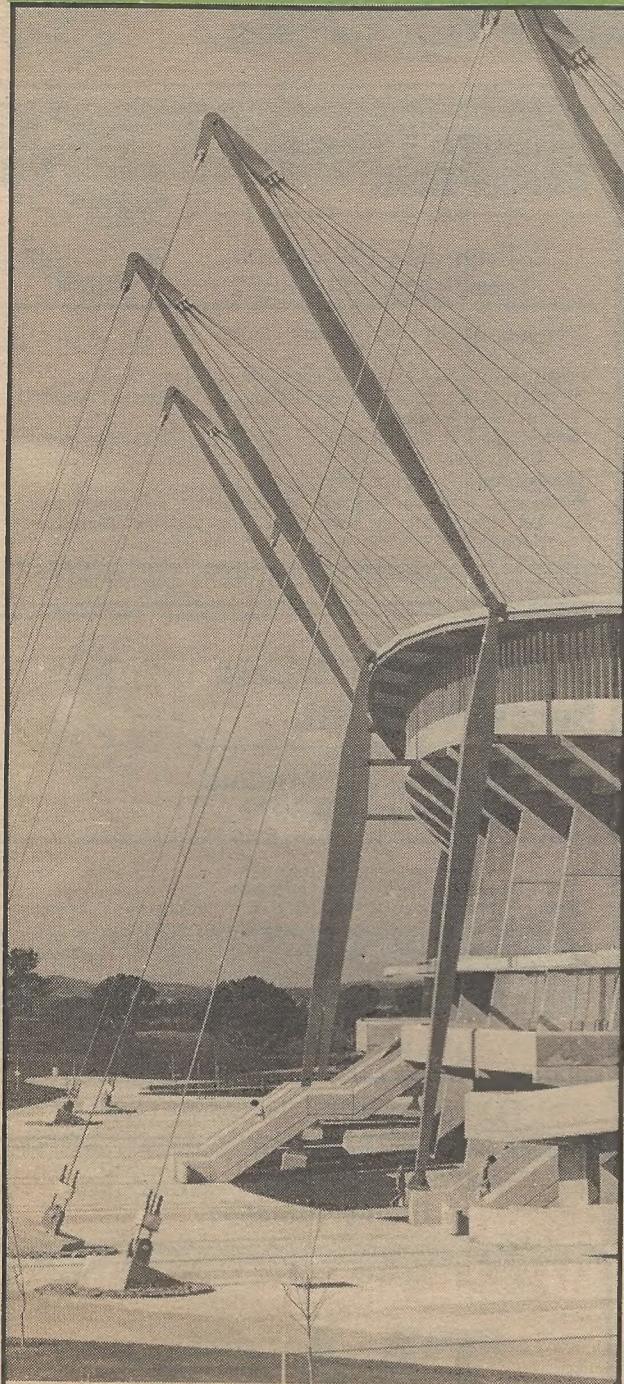
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# CANBERRA'S PRIDE AND JOY



TOP: Side and rear view of the National Stadium, set in a quiet, green area. The suspension idea is similar to the one used for the Munich Olympic Stadium.

Canberra's magnificent new National Stadium, now the home ground of Canberra City, was built at a cost of some \$6m. and was officially opened late last year for the Pacific Games.

The stadium project, originally planned for about 1980, was approved for earlier completion by the Labor Government in 1974 in order to stage the four-yearly Pacific track and field meet.

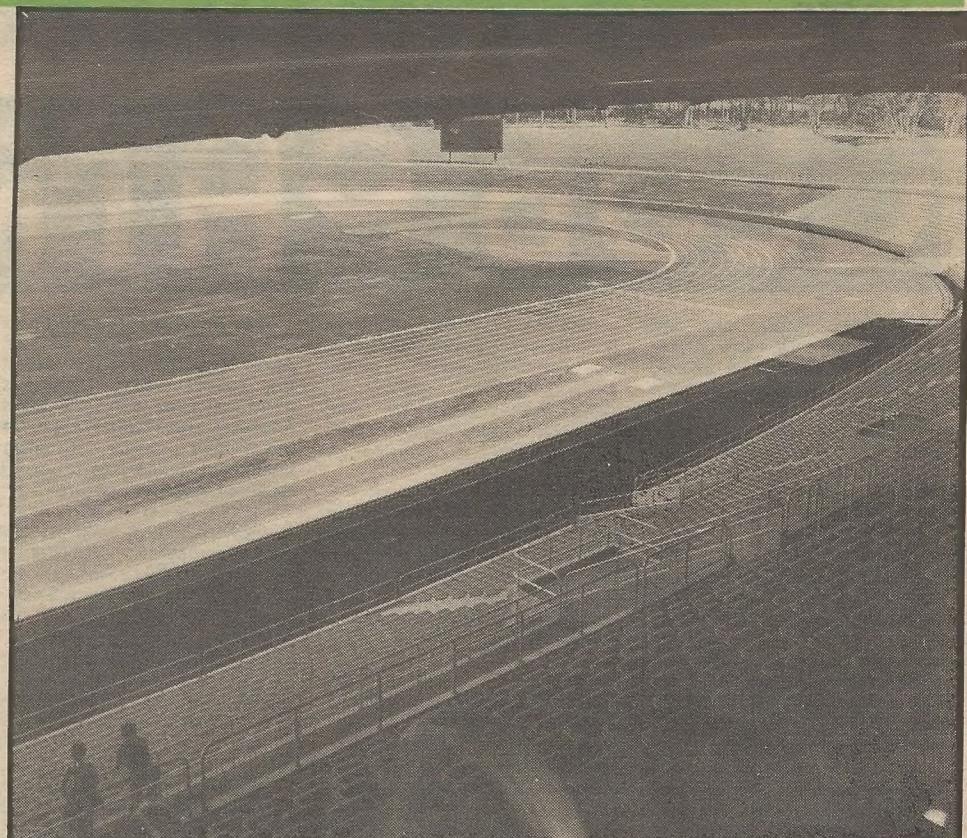
Last year Canberra City were forced to play their home matches at the quaint but primitive Manuka Oval, opposite Canberra's Catholic cathedral.

Today the club is allowed to rent Australia's most modern and comfortable stadium.

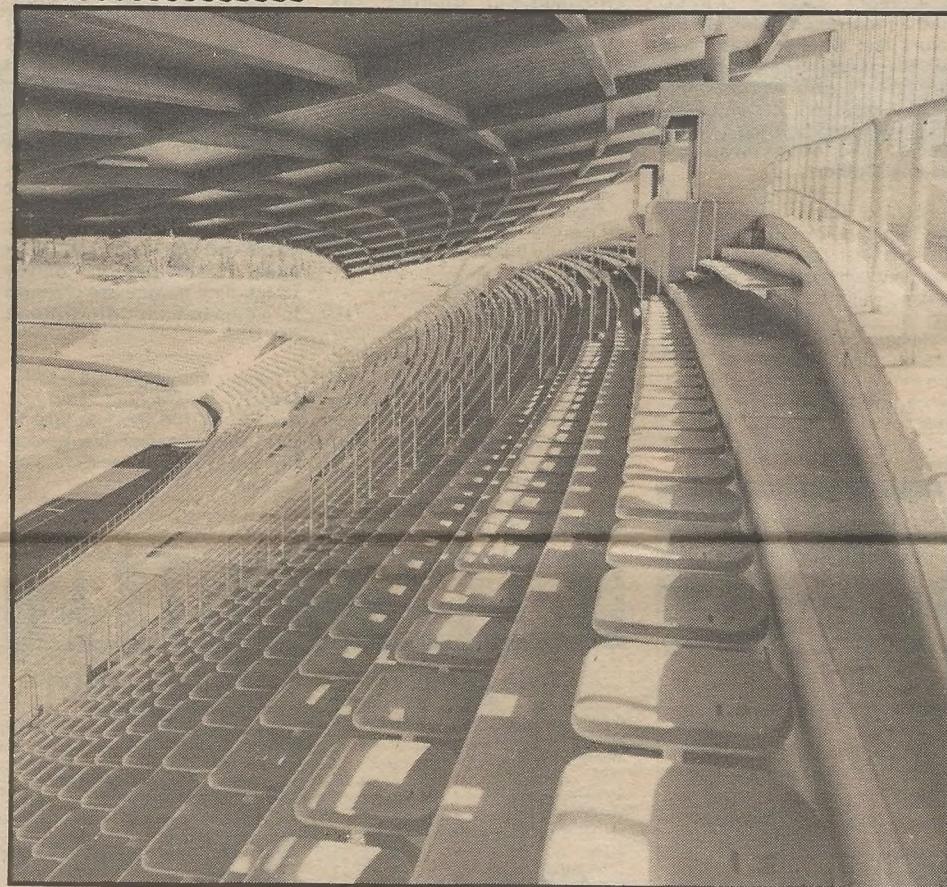
Like everything else in the national capital, the stadium was built for future population growth.

Canberra City, however, isn't waiting for the future with their first home match, against West Adelaide, they just about doubled their 1977 top attendance, drawing 6,100 spectators.

And all this by a club which some 18 months didn't even exist . . .



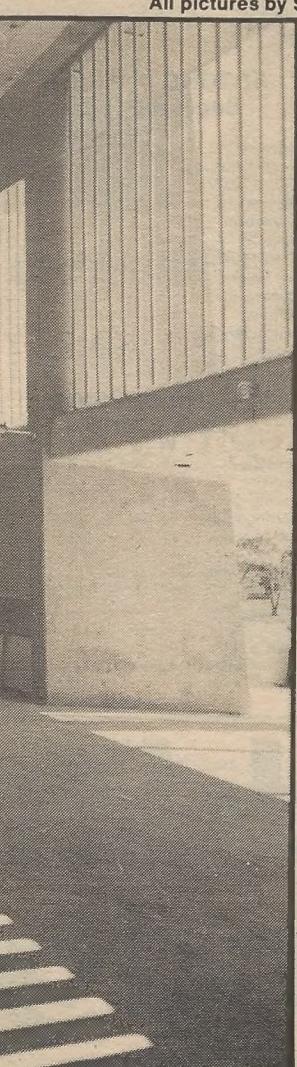
TOP: The spacious, splendid National Stadium at the Canberra suburb of Bruce, holding 20,000 spectators in comfort. At the right end is the electronic scoreboard. All seats on the grandstand are contoured chairs in the best overseas tradition.



LEFT: Part of the grandstand with a 6,000 capacity, half of them under cover, offering a splendid view of the playing area.



BOTTOM: Back of the grandstand with concreted concourse and directional arrows.



BELOW: Amenities area and kiosk space of the stadium. The dressing rooms are one floor below — at ground level.



All pictures by Stuart Butterworth.

# NSW STATE LEAGUE

## CLUB PATROL

One day after his appearance on a TV show where he blasted Australia's soccer leadership, somebody fired a shot through the expensive plateglass of RAY RICHARDS' sports store at Fairfield. Surely, it couldn't have been... No, that's ridiculous.

What's a sweaty old tracksuit worth nowadays? Quite a lot if it carries the Socceroo charisma. Last week Marconi's ace goalie ALAN MAHER took part in Channel 10's Teleton and had two of his tracksuits auctioned, one for \$60, one for \$125. Then, in the foyer, a woman offered him \$200 for another one — which he didn't have...

**RYDE**, one of the best organised amateur outfits, have managed to obtain a sponsorship from the local Fury Ford dealers.

### Last week's results

#### STATE LEAGUE

Monaro v G'ville	3-1	1-3	—
T'gabbe v Suth.	1-1	1-5	0-2
M. Olymp v A'cliffe	0-0	1-1	0-3
Manly v APIA	1-1	0-0	1-0
Melita v Avala	1-0	3-1	2-1
Yugal v Auburn	2-5	0-9	1-2

#### SECOND DIVISION

Blackth'n v Q' Park	9-0	—
K'gai v Uni NSW	2-1	3-1
M'ville v Revesby	1-1	1-1
Wgah v Belmore	0-0	1-2

### NSW Federation Official Program

#### ROTHMANS STATE LEAGUE

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

##### Division 1

Mv. Olympic v Toongabbie	Arlington
Availa v Bankstown	Mona Park
Arncilffe v Croatia	Hurstville

##### Division 2

Ku-ring-gai v Marrickville	Parklands Oval
Belmore v Guildford	Blick Oval

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

##### Division 1

Granville v APIA	Garside Park
Sutherland v Monaro	Seymour Shaw
Manly v Yugal	Cromer Park
Auburn v Melita	Mona Park

##### Division 2

Revesby v Queens Park	Milperra
Blacktown v Polonia	Francis Park
NS Inter v Warringah	North Sydney
Uni NSW v Gladesville	David Phillips

#### NEXT WEEK

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

##### Division 1

Toongabbie v Arncilffe	Girraween
Meita v Manly	Garside

##### Division 2

Polonia v Revesby	Chopin Park
Gladesville v Belmore	Morrison Bay

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

##### Division 1

Yugal v Granville	Concord
APIA v Sutherland	Lambert Park
Monaro v Mv. Olympic	Marco Polo
Bankstown v Auburn	Soccer Centre
Croatia v Avala	Sydney Sports Ground

##### Division 2

Queens Park v Ku-ring-gai	Erskineville
Marrickville v Uni NSW	Mackey Park
Warringah v Blacktown	Graham Reserve
Guildford v NS Inter	Guildford

BRIAN DODDS, Western Suburbs' schoolteacher-striker, has been transferred to the Wollongong area and has rejoined Wests, travelling three nights a week, together with Peter Wilson, to training in Sydney.

According to a strong rumor, Polish goalkeeping ace JAN TOMASZEWSKI may join the Newtown club of Launceston, Tasmania, after the World Cup, coming as player-coach-manager.

ULYSSES KOKKINOS, the former South Melbourne ace who recently tried his luck with West Adelaide, was last week sentenced to 18 months in prison on charges of blackmail and extortion.

Monaro's "veteran" goalkeeper LAURIE PALEC had a recurrence of his old leg injury last weekend, and had to leave the field against Granville. Laurie will probably miss this week's match, a bitter blow, as his experience would have been invaluable against Sutherland.

Not too many people within the Toongabbie club would have realised that their club captain has only last week signed a full contract with the club after playing in the Ampol Cup as an amateur! BOB OLDHAM has been a minor sensation at Gabbe this year, dominating the defence and having a calming influence on the team, so it was a fitting reward that he was made the team captain.

The YUGAL club is holding a dance this Saturday night at the Newtown Rules club, in 303 Cleveland St., Redfern. All supporters are invited to attend.

St. George midfield ace RUDI GNAVI was a surprise last-minute omission from the squad last Sunday. Coach Ilija Takac is known to have a very low opinion of the polished Argentinian and it wouldn't surprise if the simmering antagonism soon came to a head.

Yugal have regained a player they thought they would lose for the rest of the season in CHARLIE PRGOMELJA. Charlie was loaned to Monaro at the start of the season as work commitments forced him to live in Queanbeyan. However, a change of heart meant he returned to Sydney and so Yugal snapped up the valuable defender once again.

The YUGAL club is holding a dance this Saturday night at the Newtown Rules club, in 303 Cleveland St., Redfern. All supporters are invited to attend.

Yugal's first home match of the season, at Concord Oval on April 9, will be the first time in over 15 years that the ground has been used for first division football.

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### MONARO v GRANVILLE 3-1 (0-1)

Only brilliant goalkeeping by Hoare and some atrocious shooting by Monaro allowed Granville to go home with this modest defeat. For the first 20 minutes Granville hardly touched the ball while Monaro, mainly due to their midfield, put together a series of fine attacking moves. Valeri had three chances in the first 40 minutes — yet it was Granville who scored from a counter-attack. In the second half, as Monaro began to get into top gear, Granville gradually caved in and once Valeri equalised, the final outcome was beyond dispute, with the second and third goals.

— Joe Chiera

### MANLY v APIA 1-1 (1-0)

Manly outplayed and indeed outclassed their more illustrious opponents for most of the second half and should have gained the points. They thoroughly deserved their halftime lead when Ron Geekie gathered an accurate pass from John Dick and slid the ball past the advancing David McGuire. APIA looked a beaten side with bad passing and bumbling footwork in the second half, but, playing well into injury time, they scored an equaliser when Phil Bakaric drove a stinging shot which goalkeeper Chris Cassettari failed to

— Doug Wendt

### MARRICKVILLE v ARNCLIFFE 0-0

Marrickville Olympic were a shade unlucky, not to have won, as Peter Katholos hit the crossbar and Mark Harrington was forced to head off the line right at the end to save the Scots. Early shots were missed by both Grant Henwood and Alan Smart for Arncliffe, and Katholos should have scored, but he hit the ball straight at the keeper. Bruce Cuneo, Terry Thompson and Ali El Zein were Olympic's best. Thompson placed a great crossfield pass to the left wing in the second half only to see a great opportunity that he created completely wasted.

— George Streeter

### TOONGABBIE v SUTHERLAND 1-1 (0-01)

Sutherland will never find a harder point to earn than this one against Toongabbie. Playing with greater composure, the Ampol Cup winners moved the ball around quickly and narrowly missed many scoring chances. Craig Hall put Sutherland in the lead in the 28th minute when he linked up with a raid and coolly scored off a looping shot from 30 metres out. Toongabbie improved in the second half and new signing Jimmy Izzatt accepted Larry Armitage's cross to level the score from 8 metres. It was all Toongabbie from there on but they had no final shot.

— Andy Henderson

### YUGAL v AUBURN 2-5 (0-3)

Auburn had a training run in the first half and scored three goals in 20 minutes. Yugal were allowed back into the game, which was spoilt throughout by continual and petty fouls, mainly from the losing side. When Yugal applied pressure after halftime it was Kevin Dobson who held a very shaky defence together. Although Willie Hamilton showed his skills he will need to become more mobile before he becomes an effective force with his side. As to Yugal they will have to improve greatly if they are to dodge being left in the cellar.

— Roger Dewick

### MELITA v AVALA

#### 1-0 (0-0)

It is indeed a pity that George Butler is heading back to Britain after another match to go, because he transformed the game when he came on for Joe Farrugia in the second half. He is, by the way, to be replaced within a month by a Maltese player of note, and negotiations are at an advanced stage. Raoul Bianco brought Nelson Brizuela on for Brian Parker also, and after pressing hard in the first half they found the goal they wanted midway in the second through Ian McGovern. Avala were well in the game nevertheless, with

— Lincoln Waters

### SECOND DIVISION

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# EAGLES HAMPERED BY LACK OF GROUND

— By Keith Gilmour —

**Melita, who last week received the first instalment of \$6,000 from Associated Securities Ltd towards their three-year sponsorship, are back at their former ground, Mona Park, for Sunday's away game against Auburn.**

The team is functioning well and should win, but poor training facilities at Camden Oval and Camperdown Park are upsetting coach Raoul Bianco's preparations.

"Our real home should be in Wentworthville, Pendle Hill, Greystanes or Auburn/Granville," according to president Emanuel Said. "There is no use installing expensive lighting until we get long-term rights to a worthwhile ground."

Avala, who meet Bankstown at Mona Park on Saturday, are also hampered by training facility problems.

"Ultimately I think we will be the main tenants at the new Warwick Farm complex, but we cannot get our team properly fit unless we find a suitable training ground," club official Jack Cirjanic said.



This must call for a further top level approach to Fairfield Council to clear up an entirely unsatisfactory position.

Striker Jim Magill is seriously in doubt with a bruised left foot



Terry Butler, APIA

for Saturday's game against Bankstown, but Eddie Patterson (leg) and Alan Griffiths (pulled calf muscle) are expected to play.

Croatia follow up Wednesday's Sydney Sports Ground match with an away game against hard running Arncliffe Scots at Hurstville.

Ructions have been promised at APIA following a big investment in players and poor displays, but the team has a chance to redeem itself against Granville on Sunday.

The Sutherland-Monaro clash promises much as both teams have semi-final aspirations. A draw could well be forecast.

The other Saturday game is at Arlington, where Marrickville Olympic will have to improve to defeat Toongabbie.

Manly did well to overshadow APIA last week, but they are up against an entirely different style of play when they tackle Yugal at Cromer Park on Sunday.

Manly have the spirit to win, but they will have to give a constructive display in all departments and keep valiant Branko Karanfilovski under tight rein if they are to avoid a real upset — and if he plays, being on offer by Yugal at a surprisingly high fee of \$5,000.



John Watkiss, Sutherland

# Blacktown expect big crowd for Polonia tie

— By Charles Spiteri —

### DIVISION TWO

**The clash between Blacktown and Polonia at Francis Park on Sunday should attract a big crowd as both teams draw their supporters mainly from the western areas.**

Polonia have yet to play a first grade game as wet weather continues to hamper the competition. However, Blacktown seems to be the surprise packet of the competition.

In their initial two games in second division they have rattled in 12 goals and have yet to concede one. Both games were against respected opposition in Queens Park and Marrickville.

The other game which also should attract attention is the clash between Ku-ring-gai and Marrickville.

Despite creating many chances, Ku-ring-gai seem to be finding it hard to get goals and they must improve against the solid defence of Marrickville.

Wet weather grounds have led to the cancellation of several matches last weekend but brief reports from those played were:

#### MARRICKVILLE v REVESBY 1-1

In a hard but scrappy game, Marrickville almost clinched victory over the higher rated Workers. They led 1-0 within 15 minutes when Dennis Day shot from close range, the ball deflecting off a defender and finishing in the corner of the net. Seven minutes after the interval, Workers came back into the game when a cross from Greg Byles found Kenny Thorpe in position to hammer home the equaliser. Revesby had the job on their hands in the final ten minutes when they had to defend grimly against an all-out attack by the home team.

**MARRICKVILLE:** Horiotopoulos, Rymer, Jordan, Lee, Walsh, Profit, Apostolidis (Pondokas), Day (1), Mackin, Gould, Shirliff.

**Revesby Workers:** Childs, Adams, Pitman, Patterson, Keith Thorpe, Byles, Watson, Copas, Sculley, Ken Thorpe (1), Howard.



Greg Byles, Revesby

halftime. However, University came back quickly after the interval to level the score. University could have gone further ahead but failed to convert a penalty which Steve Ellis brilliantly saved. Luis Solis, who took the coaching job at University only two weeks ago, has resigned.

**Ku-ring-gai:** Ellis, Turner, S. Robertson, A. Robertson, Birdsell (Wartton 1), Malone, Lyle, West, Furrell, Kinsey, King (1).

#### WARRINGAH SAINTS v BELMORE 0-0

The heavy conditions at Cromer Park No. 2 were hardly ideal for football and the result was a very scrappy sort of game played in midfield. The Saints created a few chances in the first half with Belmore coming stronger after the interval but neither side succeeded to break the deadlock. Seventeen year old keeper Glen Poulton had a good game for the Saints and so did midfielder Alan Dean.

**Warringah Saints:** Poulton, Duncan, Raymond, Pointer, Morris, Dean,

Jeffers, Trotter, Sheaves, Potts, Diebold.

#### BLACKTOWN v QUEENS PARK 9-0

Strikers Sam Meharg and Joe Ramische had a feast against Queens Park, scoring six of Blacktown's nine goals. Queens Park only lasted the first 10 minutes until Sam Meharg opened the score. From then on, Blacktown, without mid-fielder George McCulloch, took control and were leading 5-0 at half time. Despite the battering, none of the nine goals could be blamed on 17-year-old goalkeeper Jim Botsis who could do little with the shabby defence in front of him.

**Blacktown:** James, Hoff (1); Vincent, McCoy, R. Ramische, Gardner (1), Thompson (Godley 1), Hanish (Clarke), Parkinson, Meharg (4), Ramische (2).

**Queens Park:** Botsis, Bell, Coyle, Finneran, Thorpe, Hammond, Theile, Walsh (Gogic), Mitchell (Brown), Gallaway, Sweeney.

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# WORLD NEWS



## Brazil hit by pre-cup jitters

The almost traditional pre-World Cup jitters have hit Brazil where manager Claudio Coutinho is bitterly criticised by the media for his initial selection of his 22 players.

More and more voices are heard demanding the replacement of Coutinho with Mario Zagalo, former national team coach who returned to Rio in January from Kuwait.

However, the Brazilian Association hasn't made any moves yet — apart from gathering the squad at Teresopolis, 100 km from Rio.

In goal Leao is the first choice and most Brazilians agree with this.

The two fullbacks will be Ze Maria and Rodrigues Netto and the public seems to feel that two bypassed stars, Nelinho and Marinho, would have been preferable.

The central defenders will be Amaral and Pereira — provided Pereira is released in time by Atletico Madrid.

There is little dispute about the midfield: the Zico-Toninho Cerezo-Rivelino trio is perhaps the strongest in the world.

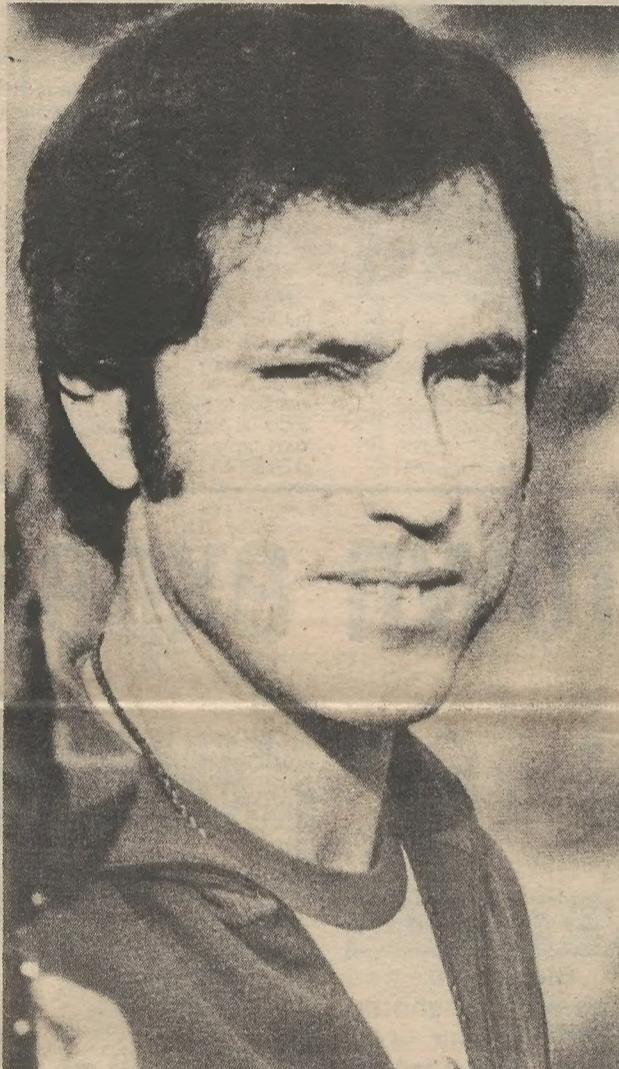
Coutinho is having problems with his attack. He omitted Paulo Cesar, Roberto and Palinha — and so the only certainty seems to be Dirceu (not to be confused with Dirceu Lopez who, some years ago, thrilled Australian crowds when touring with Cruzeiro).

Gil may play on the right wing — though the Brazilian press rates him "light years" behind some of their previous heroes such as Garrincha, Julinho and Jairzinho.

The central striker's job may be given to Reinaldo, whose style is reminiscent of Tostao.

Coutinho has announced that his squad isn't final: it will be enlarged for the European tour in April.

But the nucleus seems to have been settled.



Brazil's coach Claudio Coutinho.

## WORLD CUP



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## No fiesta for Mexican stars

No mercy—this is the motto of Mexico's national coach Roca.

His squad of players begin their day at 8 a.m. in the Centro de Capacitacion, not far from the famous Azteca Stadium. The temperature is about 30.

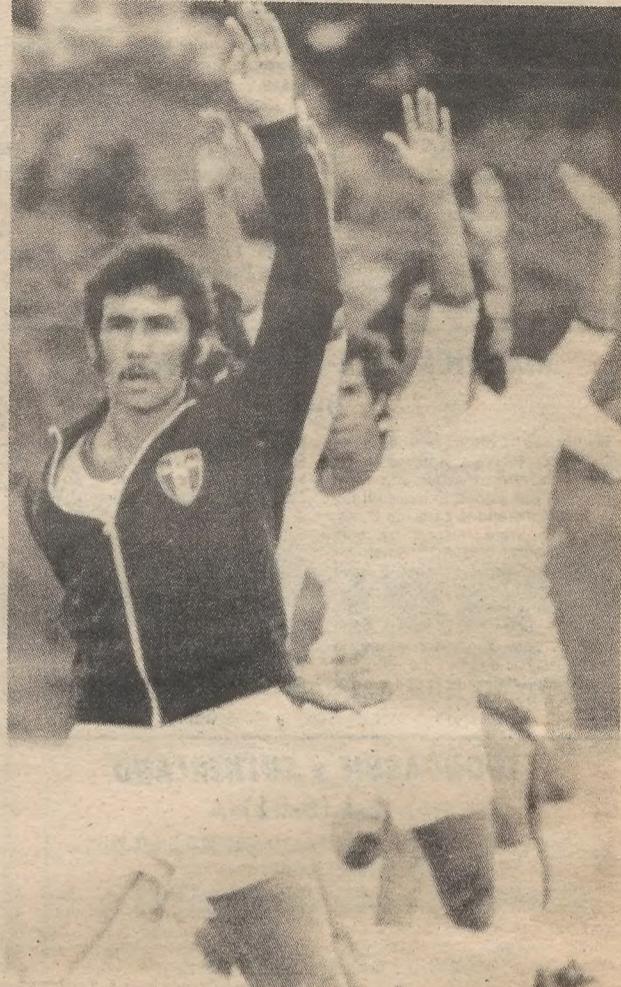
Then, at 12 and 5 p.m., they hold two more training sessions with the strength-sapping heat

reaching 35 to 40.

Some newsmen commented that this schedule was too tough for the usually soft Mexicans.

"True," said Roca, "but we're preparing to play the tough, hard West Germans."

"Anybody who can't stand up to my preparations won't even come to Argentina."



Mexico's World Cup squad at training.

## ANOTHER DANE FOR BORUSSIA

Borussia Monchengladbach's Danish connection is strong as ever.

Over the years, they have been lucky to have some great players from Denmark: Ulrik Le Fevre, Henning Jensen, the brilliant Alan Simonsen and Carsten Nielsen, and now they have another lined up for the next season.

He is Steen Thychosen, 19, from the small provincial club of Vejle — where Le Fevre and Simonsen hail from.

He is the central striker of the Danish junior national team and has signed a contract with the German cracks.



Alan Simonsen, pensive (left) and fighting.

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